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GARDINER MARTIN LANE

Born April 30, 1859; died October 3, 1914

President of the Museum from 1907 to 1914

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Museum, held on October 7, the following minute was adopted:

"The Trustees deeply lament the death of their President, Gardiner Martin Lane.

"On his election as a Trustee in January, 1906, Mr. Lane was made a member of the Building Committee; and since his election as President, in January, 1907, he has been Chairman of all the important committees of the Board, and active on every committee. He thus became leader and guide in all the work of the Trustees.

"By inheritance and education he was a student with a tendency to letters, and particularly to the classics; but on his graduation from Harvard College he went into business, in which calling he won prompt and continuous success. This success, finding expression through his natural gifts, his acquired tastes, and his sincere goodwill, enabled him to be of great service to Harvard University, the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the Archæological Institute of America, and this Museum.

"He had a strong sympathy with scholars, artists, and collectors whose means were narrow in proportion to their capacities and visions, and with all persons whose occupations called for refinement, sensibility, and fidelity, but whose earnings were small. He enjoyed and heartily embraced opportunities to come to the aid of such persons and was never weary of such well-doing.

"Family affection, constancy in friendship, modesty and reticence about his own doings, and public spirit on behalf of education and charity characterized his life.

"His interest in the Museum was comprehensive, being confined to no special departments, but extending to all its collections and to the resources of the whole institution.

"He was quick to discern opportunities for advancing the interests of the Museum and to secure the means of seizing them.

"As President he displayed unfailing good feeling, tact, and wisdom; and his administration, though only seven and a half years in length, will be conspicuous in the history of the institution for liberal policies, great gifts, and a remarkable growth in public influence."
